

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF	)	
REDUCTION OF	)	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT	)	
OPERATING EXPENSES	)	

On the 2nd day of February, 2009, the Honorable Chief Justice Marsha Ternus filed a supervisory order relating to the reduction of Judicial Branch operating expenses. A copy of that order is attached hereto and incorporated by this reference. In order to implement the reduction of certain expenses in the Seventh Judicial District, the following rules will be in effect as of February 17, 2009, until further notice:

1. Unless otherwise directed by the Chief Judge or her designee, all judicial officers and court reporters will be assigned to work at the courthouse in the county of their official domicile as designated under Iowa Court Rule 22.16(4)(b), subject to the assignment provisions set forth elsewhere in this Administrative Order. A copy of the document listing domiciles is attached to this order and incorporated herein by this reference.

2. When judicial officers and court reporters travel outside their county of domicile for court service days, specially assigned trial assignments, and criminal trials, they shall continue to receive reimbursement for mileage as allowed by Iowa Court Rule 22.17.

3. Each of the five counties of the Seventh Judicial District is entitled to receive judicial services. However, there are currently no judicial officers of the District Court whose official domicile is located in Muscatine, Cedar or Jackson Counties. Therefore,

as of February 17, 2009 (and until June 30, 2009, or further Order modifying the travel restrictions, whichever occurs earlier), the frequency of court service days in Muscatine, Cedar and Jackson Counties must now be modified as follows:

a. Muscatine County. A District Court judge will be present for court service days each Friday, and every day of the third and fourth weeks of each month. The third week shall be the third full calendar week of the month. Thus, a District Court judge will be present in Muscatine each day of the following weeks:

February 17-27 (Feb. 16 is an unpaid furlough day)

March 16-27

April 20-May 1

May 18-29 (May 25 is Memorial Day)

June 15-26

If Friday is a Judicial Branch holiday or a furlough day, court service day will be Thursday.

b. Cedar County. A District Court judge will be present for court service days each Friday of every month. If Friday is a Judicial Branch holiday or a furlough day, court service day will be Thursday.

c. Jackson County. A District Court judge shall be present for court service days each Friday of every month. If Friday is a Judicial Branch holiday or a furlough day, court service day will be Thursday.

District Court judges will perform Court Services on these days which shall include order hour; criminal matters excluding trials; domestic abuse hearings; motions with or without oral argument; and other matters which require no more than thirty minutes, unless the schedule permits a longer hearing .

4. In Cedar and Jackson Counties, the District Associate Judge assigned the one day/month CINA and delinquency dockets may, if the schedule permits, handle criminal matters within Associate Court jurisdiction, including Class D felonies.

5. Civil bench trials from counties without judges domiciled there (Cedar, Jackson and Muscatine Counties) may be held in another county as the case schedule of the other county permits. Any such civil bench trial cases originating in Cedar and Jackson counties will be heard at the Clinton County Courthouse by judges domiciled in that county. Any such civil bench trial cases originating in Muscatine County will be heard in Scott County by judges domiciled in that county. The civil bench trials scheduled in Cedar, Jackson and Muscatine County will be heard in Clinton and Scott Counties only as the court schedules in those counties permit. All scheduling communications related to the holding of a hearing outside of the originating county must include the Assistant District Court Administrator or the District Court Administrator. The actual transfer of a trial to the non-originating county shall be by Order, and the Clerk shall, in addition to usual procedures, provide copies to the Clerk of the non-originating county and to the District Court Administrator.

6. Criminal trials and civil jury trials are addressed in numbered paragraph three (3) of the Supreme Court's Supervisory Order.

7. A revamped judges' assignment schedule for 2009 is attached hereto and incorporated by this reference. This revised judges' assignment schedule for 2009 reflects the assignment of judges in Scott and Clinton County by their official domicile; assignment of judges to work scheduled court service days in Muscatine County; and assignment of judges to work scheduled court service days on Fridays in Cedar and Jackson Counties.

All of the above is SO ORDERED on this 9th day of February, 2009.

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Bobbi M. Alpers  
Chief Judge

cc: Judges of the Seventh Judicial District  
Clerks of Court  
Chief Juvenile Court Officer  
District Court Administrator  
Law Clerks  
Court Reporters  
District 7 Bar Association Presidents  
Cedar, Clinton, Jackson, Muscatine and Scott County Attorneys  
Cedar, Clinton, Jackson, Muscatine and Scott County Sheriffs  
State Court Administration